



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. RIC-96-153

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Viet LE et al.)) Group Art Unit: 2633
Application No.: 08/923,461)) Examiner: M. Sedighian
Filed: September 4, 1997))
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR))
MODULAR MULTIPLEXING))
AND AMPLIFICATION IN A))
MULTI-CHANNEL PLAN))
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Technology Center 2600

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
2011 South Clark Place
Customer Window, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application

- A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.
- A Terminal Disclaimer and a check for \$55.00 \$110.00 to cover the requisite Government fee are also enclosed.
- Applicant(s) request continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the \$370.00 \$740.00 fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
- Applicant(s) previously submitted _, on _, for which continued examination is requested.
- A request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) is also enclosed.

No additional claim fee is required.
 An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	No. of Claims	Highest No. Of Claims Previously Paid For	Extra Claims	Rate	Additional Fee
Total Claims		Minus		x \$18.00 =	
Ind. Claims		Minus		x \$84.00 =	
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$280.00					
Total Amendment Fee					
If Small entity status is claimed, subtract 50% of Total Amendment Fee					
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					0

A claim fee in the amount of \$ is enclosed.
 Charge \$ to Deposit Account no. 13-2491.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 13-2491 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

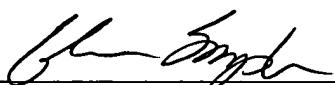
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Amendment/Reply Transmittal Letter
Application Serial No. 08/923,461
Attorney's Docket No. RIC-96-153
Page 3

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-2491.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRITY & SNYDER, L.L.P.

By: 

Glenn Snyder
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Date: May 5, 2003

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AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 3, 2003, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 77-80 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 81 as follows:

1. 81. (Amended) A system for equalizing optical gain across a set of channels within an

operating window of a fiber communication network, comprising:

 a coarse wavelength division multiplexing/demultiplexing unit configured to support bi-directional optical signal traffic within the operating window, the operating window comprising a first set of subwindows traveling in a first direction and a second set of subwindows traveling in a second direction, the first set of subwindows comprising different